

## What can we see? Oops!

Sometimes what we see is not we anticipate? Our minds play tricks. So do our eyes and ears. We think we hear our parents, teachers, spouse saying something and it is not what was meant. And then we text or send an email and auto-correct throws us another loop.

### CALLING ALL KIDS!

I didn't hear you will not work. You have better hearing than us adults and can recognize a wider variety of noises and pitch tones.

Adults have this talking vs. being heard thing going on. To make sure they are **listening**, gain eye control, speak calmly and don't babble. If you babble they will bobble like the bobble head dolls. This happens at all age levels.

### Should outside food be allowed inside cinema halls or not?

Some say yes because it is too expensive inside for food. Some say no because it is a business and you have to abide by their policy. And some, well they just sneak it in and really don't care.

It is like that girl with the hot pink stripe on the left side of her hair. You won't talk to her because she is weird, out of place, not in your norm. Just like your parent not wanting to speak to their co-worker because they always look like they came from a fashion show, something just wasn't right.

How dare your teacher team you up with "pink stripe?" How dare your supervisor make you share a work place with Mr. Just Not Right?



And then the discussion begins, small at first and you realize just maybe the stripe would look better in orange or the bold tie as a bolo. Then the final realization...it does not matter because you don't see the stripe? When did it stop? Is it even still there?

Then you also realize AGAIN that things are just not as they seem because:

- A firefly is not a fly but a beetle
- A guinea pig is not from guinea form a rodent from South America.
- A banana tree is not at tree but a herb.
- India ink is not from India, it is from China and Egypt.

## Appearance—fact or fiction

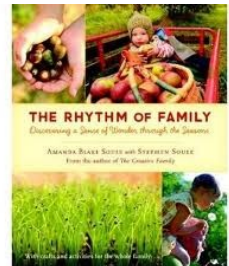
If we use only that one senses (sight) and nothing else, aren't we restricting our world? If you can't open up and use all your senses you will experience the:

- Sense of fairness
- Sense of rhythm
- Sense of understanding
- Sense of movement
- Sense of discovery
- Sense of time
- Sense of community/belonging
- Sense of family
- Sense of perspective

When we close off our other senses we close the door to so many opportunities and wonder people.

(Excerpt from web ) Following the course of a year through the passing of the seasons, this book explores the ways we can create deep family connections and meaningful memories through living in tune with the cycles of nature. From stomping around in mud boots in the spring to gathering around the woodstove in winter, our activities naturally change from season to season—from the rhythms of the seasons comes the rhythms in our homes, our hearts, our families, and our every day. Paying attention to these changes slows us down, inspires new types of creative play and exploration, instills a sense of family togetherness, and deepens an awareness of nature and self that can make our lives, days, family, and earth grow stronger.

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## So what is it?

Remember our brain wants to predetermine so before you make a final decision. Think very hard if what you see is what you believe!!! (answer on back)



## Tracking Teresa

Tracking Teresa is a short video regarding social networking. This illustrates how fast someone can gather information about YOU and you haven't let out a clue. This video is a great view for both parents and all ages of children.

<http://www.netsmartz.org/RealLifeStories/TrackingTeresa>

Within 2 minutes they can know this much:

- Gender
- Likes such as basketball etc.
- Has a little brother
- Father's potential name
- Valid email
- Home address

## QR Codes

QR code or quick response code is a matrix barcode. Target audience is cell phone users. You are beginning to see them all over, shelves on stores, in ads etc. Your cell phone reads this and viola a video pops in to entice you to purchase the product. Realtors are even using the QR codes to show videos of homes. Airlines are sending them for boarding passes, their use is endless.

They can be good and they can be dangerous. First they go toward your usage of the cell phone which can send your bill over the roof.

As a direct mail system to android phones, the video could be anything. But are they safe, well yes. But once you open one the direct mailer will know and then begin to send numerous marketing messages to your phone.

There are individuals that are developing spyware and other malicious code with QRs and if you have a Windows operating base for your phone, this can be major trouble.



## Does Laughter Have Color?

We can laugh at or with you. We can laugh out of fear or we can laugh out of joy. We can laugh to reduce stress. We can laugh with a friend so hard we forget what we are laughing about.

So does laughter have color? Some say it is the rainbow, full of different hues; others say it is colorless and odor free. A Robert Provine study suggests that laughter is a form of communication and probably one of the first forms for humans; "Laughter is a mechanism everyone has; laughter is part of universal human vocabulary." We laugh before we even learn to speak.

Color sends messages to us. Green is earthy, blue is whimsical, red is bold, purple the color of royalty. There have been numerous studies on the affect of color to cultures. What is more appealing to one culture may not be another. But remember color is the first thing that flashes in most of our minds. You will remember the red vase or that yellow car before you know the model. It is an identifier.

Back to page one. Remember it was said the earth was flat because of its appearance? We ignore our surroundings and our senses and allow appearance to be our guide. Laughter is a reaction! How do you react? What color is your laughter when you meet someone from a different culture?

An article from Tandem Journey on skillful communication strategies with your teen suggests that most teens only listen to the first three or four sentences. So make your point clear and precise and impact the first one minute of conversation, especially if it is about behavior issues.

Keeping the lid down and not letting the steam escape is a thing to do. Teens want to talk at the craziest times, let's say 2:00 a.m. If it is not an emergency discuss an appropriate and stick to it.

Remember parents, it is safer not to know everything and to show some trust. The article also suggests to LISTEN instead of pre-planning any type of response. You could be so busy mentally preparing your counter attack that you miss an important part of the conversation. It is more important in the teen years that you teach kids how to think than what to think!

Read more at <http://www.tandemjourney.org>



Photo from page 1:

A tornado over Deshler, Nebraska as seen from space.

